



Human Services Committee Testimony

January 29, 2015

My name is Jay Bartolomei. I am president of AFSCME Local 714 which represents many of the state workers at the state Department of Social Services.

Council 4 supports H.B. 5357, AN ACT INCREASING ACCESS TO CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES FOR WORKING FAMILIES. This bill studies access and eligibility requirements for state funded child care. Our members provide the referral for child care eligibility service and are happy to provide any information that we can on expanding it and improving it.

Council 4 supports S.B. 280, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES. This bill proposes to study how responsive the state's DSS system is to people receiving assistance, any problems with the programs and whether staff is properly allocated to meet citizen's needs. Because of our role in staffing the programs to be studied, we are in a position to provide you with information on how programs are implemented and how they operate. We would be happy to provide any information that we can.

As the legislative session progresses, we hope that we can provide the committee with any assistance that may be needed on how programs operate on the front line. Thank you for your consideration.